FBIS DAILY REPORT

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REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENT GALTIERI'S RESIGNATION

NC171955 Paris AFP in English 1954 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (AFP) -- Argentine head of state Gen Leopoldo Galtieri has resigned, it was announced officially here today.

Retirement Request Accepted

PY171951 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1930 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (NA) -- Maj Gen Cristino Nicolaides, commander of the army I Corps, will be installed as army commander in chief tomorrow, according to what has been disclosed by well-informed sources.

It allegedly has not been decided if the presidency of the nation will be assumed by a civilian designated by the military junta, or if it will be occupied by the three commanders in chief in turn, beginning with the most senior member of the junta, who currently is Lt Gen Basilio Lami Dozo.

Sources indicated that is very probably that the second option will be adopted, but agreed that it is "possible" that in case a decision is made for a temporary civilian president, that Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez be designated.

According to reliable sources, Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri this morning offered his retirement to the major generals, and as such he will no longer be the president or commander in chief of the army.

Galtieri then went to his residence at Campo de Mayo, where he is staying at this moment.

Interior Minister Alfredo Saint Jean and presidential Secretary Gen Hector Iglesias went to the president's residence early this afternoon.

Some rumors indicated that Army Chief of Staff Gen Jose Vaquero also went to Campo de Mayo to inform General Galtieri that the army command had accepted his request for retirement.

Reportedly Forced To Resign

PY172134 Paris AFP in Spanish 2025 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (AFP) -- Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri today was forced to resign from his functions as president of the republic and as commander in chief of the army by military officers only 3 days after the defeat of the Argentine troops on the Malvinas Islands.

A reliable military source indicated that Gen Jose Neonio Vaquero, army chief of staff, was charged by his navy and air force counterparts with obtaining the resignation from Galtieri who had lost the confidence of the armed forces.

General Galtieri had been obstinate in continuing the war against Great Britain after the defeat at Puerto Argentino, despite the overwhelming opposition of the other military leaders, it was explained.

The decision was adopted during the meeting of army major generals which lasted until 0600 local time [0900 GMT] today, in the presence of General Galtieri himself. The decision was immediately approved by the other branches.

After several hours of discussions at the residence of the commander in chief of the army in Campo de Mayo, General Galtieri finally agreed to make official his resignation at Casa Rosada, where strict security measures have been adopted.

Reasons for Resigning

PY180024 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0014 GMT 18 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Jun (TELAM) -- Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri asserted this evening that: I am leaving because the army did not give me the political support to continue as commander and president of the nation.

Galtieri, dressed in uniform, made these statements to three journalists who wanted to interview him as he was leaving Government House around 2100.

General Galtieri added: I am not the type who abandons the ship in the midst of the storm or difficult times such as those being experienced by the nation today. He added that the people of the nation should know this.

Further Details

PY180735 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0700 GMT 18 Jun 82

[Text] General Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri has made the following statement:

I should explain that I have asked the army commands for support of my action as commander in chief and president of the nation during the delicate situation which the country is experiencing. The army commands have, however, considered that my continuation at the post is no longer suitable. I have, therefore, accepted what the generals have said. They ask that I resign from my post and I am willing to make that resignation effective today in the interest of the unity of the army and the armed forces. I do this conscious of the responsibility it implies but in the certainty that it will contribute positively to the spirit of the Argentine nation and its foreign policy, regardless of my own opinions on the need for my resignation.

Navy Chief Resigns

NC171950 Paris AFP in English 1947 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, Jun 17 (AFP) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez will assume a senior post after the resignation of head of state Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, military and government sources said here today.

The sources said that Brigadier-General Basilio Lami Dozo had been confirmed as air force chief but that navy chief Admiral Jorge Anaya had resigned.

General Cristino Nicolaides, commander of the first military region (Buenos Aires) would become new army chief, the sources said.

Mr Costa Mendez, who earlier this week had his resignation turned down by the junta, would head a civilian transitional government operating under the junta which would remain the country's ruling power, both military and government sources said.

The junta would comprise the three armed forces chiefs of staff -- General Cristino Nicolaides (Army), Brigadier General Basilio Lami Dozo (Air Force) and Admiral Vigo, who would replace Admiral Jorge Anaya, the sources said.

Later General Galtieri arrived at the Pink House presidential palace from the army chief of staff residence as rumours persisted that he had been ousted from the junta.

Civilians To Join Junta

PY171931 Paris AFP in Spanish 1910 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (AFP) -- One or two civilians reportedly will join the Argentine military junta after the resignation of President Leopoldo Galtieri, a process which is now taking place, according to persistent rumors in well-informed military circles in Buenos Aires.

The observers admitted that it was unusual for the president to remain so long in Campo de Mayo, the regular residence of the army commander.

The sources indicated that the prolonged stay of General Galtieri means that the president is a prisoner until he agrees to sign his resignation.

The same sources indicated that Lt Gen Basilio Lami Dozo will reportedly keep his position in the air force and in the junta, but nothing is known of what is going to happen to Adm Jorge Anaya.

Nicolaides New Army Head

PY171958 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1951 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (TELAM) -- The army command reports that today, 17 Jun 1982, Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri has decided to go into voluntary retirement.

Maj Gen Cristino Nicolaides will assume his duties as army commander tomorrow, 18 June 1982.

SECURITY MEASURES TIGHTENED IN BUENOS AIRES

PY171902 Paris AFP in Spanish 1835 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (AFP) -- Security measures have been tightened in the area of Government House (the seat of the Argentine presidency) and in the Plaza de Mayo (opposite Government House), with armed and helmeted soldiers being deployed.

In downtown Buenos Aires the federal police, who are in charge of maintaining public order, also were observed deploying personnel.

These measures are being taken in view of growing rumors about imminent changes in power, local press circles note.

CARETAKER CABINET TO CONTINUE TEMPORARILY

PY180030 Paris AFP in Spanish 2356 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (AFP) -- This evening government sources stated that the caretaker cabinet members will remain in their posts during the interim government presidency brought about by Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri's voluntary retirement.

In accordance with the documents of the military process initiated with the 1976 coup, this interim government will be presided over by Interior Minister Gen Alfredo Saint Jean.

The sources asserted that all the ministers went to the seat of government during the past few hours to submit their resignations and bid Galtieri farewell.

COSTA MENDEZ COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE UPCOMING TRIP

PY171925 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1735 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (NA) -- Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez today, answering a question about his possible trip which may be linked to the Malvinas affairs, said that we Argentine diplomats "are always ready to travel anyplace, especially anyplace in Latin America.

The foreign minister, who refrained from making any remarks on the situation the country is experiencing due to this conflict, today stated before a group of Brazilian officials that it is necessary to intensify bilateral relations because "if we (the two countries) view things together we are going to see better."

Costa Mendez met in San Martin Palace with members of Argentine-Brazilian binational work group, which on the Brazilian side is headed by Carlos de Proenca Rosa, chief of the Itamaraty Economy Department.

The visitor was accompanied by Jose Botafogo, the international cooperation secretary of the Brazilian Planning Secretariat; Federico Alvarez, an official of the Brazilian Ministry of Finance, and by Carlos Goncalvez da Rocha, Brazilian ambassador to Argentina.

Costa Mendez expressed his gratitude to the visitors for the cooperation extended by the Brazilian Government in the present situation. In a brief statement he made before the press, Costa Mendez said he was against "bipolarism."

In this regard he said that Argentina "rejects bipolarism and it wants to get closer to Asia, Europe, to the entire world."

After the meeting Deputy Foreign Minister Enrique Ros gave a luncheon in honor of the Brazilian delegation in the restaurant of San Martin Palace.

UN AMBASSADOR RESIGNS FOR HEALTH REASONS

PY172028 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2008 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (TELAM) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez has accepted the resignation presented by Argentine Ambassador to the United Nations Eduardo Alejandro Roca for reasons of health.

This report was released this afternoon by San Martin Palace.

LAMI DOZO'S REMARKS TO GENERALS REPORTED

PY180251 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2315 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (NA) -- Air Force Commander Basilio Lami Dozo said this afternoon to generals under his command that "if the military action in the Malvinas is to be the turning point, then changes must be made here and now."

According to air force sources which summarized the conclusions of the meeting held between Lami Dozo and the air force commanders, the air force chief said that "the country refuses to continue to be the laboratory for foreign economic models."

He added that "Argentina must design its own model, a model that excludes the option of either inflation, or recession."

Lami Dozo noted that "to remain quiet would be to condone errors which may lead to future failures."

The meeting of air force generals, which started at 1700 (2000 GMT) at the Condor Building, first made a detailed study of air force activities during the Malvinas war.

Afterwards, the generals discussed the situation within the air force and the present social and economic situation.

It was reported that the subjects that were discussed in detail were "low salaries, unemployment, high national foreign debt and the existence of a financial speculation system," among others.

The report issued at the end of the meeting states that "several courses of action and their immediate implementation so that our country may achieve within the shortest possible time a level in keeping with its possibilities through an accelerated growth of its economy were discussed."

It was noted that "agreements on these courses of actions which have been divested of ideological dogmatisms are based on specific goals that Argentina must achieve regarding its resources and its industrial and productive structure."

After noting that "the country refuses to continue being the laboratory for foreign economic models," it was noted that any effort that is to be made should be shared by all social sectors."

It was noted that "the air force wants a country without any privileged or oppressed sectors." It wants "a just, democratic, free and noble country in keeping with the national Consitution."

General Lami Dozo told the air force commanders that "it is imperative to eradicate certain vices that have undermined our society."

The air force commander noted that "among these vices are fallacies, euphemisms, and half truths. All these must be eradicated if we want to build a better nation."

According to Lami Dozo, the first conclusion drawn from this meeting of air force generals is the "need for Argentines to harmonize the concepts of freedom, security, justice and efficiency, but without making them self-destructive."

He added that "this is a challenge that our generation can assume with faith and peace of mind particularly after our recent dramatic experience."

Lami Dozo also briefed the air force generals on the guidelines of the future political parties statute which he reasserted will be approved in July.

He noted that once the political parties statute is in force there will be "a definitive reorganization stage of national institutions, among which are the armed forces:

Lami Dozo added that "this task must be shared by all sectors, particularly by those who have greater responsibilities and influence."

Morever, he said: "Strong and stable nations are based on harmonious exchanges among its members, and those who have greater responsibilitis have to contribute more."

NAVY COMMANDER ANAYA ADDRESSES NAVY PERSONNEL

PY172304 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2138 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (TELAM) -- The navy commander addressed a message to the personnel of this force in which he pointed out that the loss of Puerto Argentino was due to the joint action and advanced technology of two first-rate world powers but that this will not prevent maintaining as an objective the full recovery of the sovereignty over the Malvinas and that for this purpose the spirit of struggle will be maintained intact and the capability for combat will be increased.

The message signed by Adm Jorge Isaac Anaya reads:

"After 3 days of combat, the heroism at Puerto Argentino was overpowered by the joint action and advanced technology of two first-rate world powers. The military situation was under control while the actions took place against the visible enemy, but the situation started to turn around when a second power took an active participation in support of the first one. I point out with pride that the navy personnel behaved in an exemplary manner in all circumstances. I pay my homage to all those who died carrying out their duty at Puerto Argentino, Grytviken, on the cruiser ARA General Belgrano, the patrol ship ARA Alferes Sobral, the Isla Borbon, the patrol vessel Rio Iguazu of the Argentine naval prefecture, the ARA Islas de los Estados, the tugboat Forrest, [to those at] Puerto Darwin and to the pilots of the 1st and 2d Naval Air Squadrons.

"Future generations will recognize the grandeur of those who fought with bravery and courage and who did not relinquish their convictions in view of a lost battle. The people quicken their spirits during adverse times, and the institution should do likewise, based on its unity and upholding the virtues of courage and honor.

"Our cause is just, and history and justice are on our side. Therefore, the recovery of full sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands remains the goal. The following actions will be carried out for that purpose: maintain the spirit of struggle intact, increase the capability for combat and make the utmost effort in order to consolidate national unity."

PLANNING SECRETARY COMMENTS ON FALKLANDS OUTCOME

PY171657 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1354 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (TELAM) -- Planning Secretary Jose Miret today said that our country can no longer take being some kind of research lab or a proving ground for theoretical models foreign to reality which can only lead us to sterile and stagnating discussions.

He went on to say that "we must design our own model of a country around a set of objectives, reduced in number but strongly unifying within the framework of national unity because we are not going to build a great nation with bitter passions, or by mutual accusations or reproach, sometimes justified but not necessary."

Miret spoke on Radio Mitre saying that we must arm ourselves with great strength, profound faith and great hope because emotional impulse and blindness are bad advisors and can make us lose sight of direction.

He said that in this conflict with Great Britain many gave their lives. Miret added that because of this we have the sacred mandate to safeguard national dignity and to rebuild on the lost battle.

Miret believes that we Argentines must start from a soul-searching self-criticism, both in the official and private sectors, "followed by all the necessary personal or sectorial self-denial."

He added: "It is clear that although principles are proclaimed in this world, the world is moved by interests, therefore the national dignity cannot only be safeguarded with ethical and moral values -- which of course are essential -- but also with our own potential support built with a real national sense allowing the practice of an independent and pragmatic domestic and foreign policy."

He said: We Argentines must conform ourselves to the type of country designed by the national Constitution. He added: "The best model for the country is in the Preamble of the Constitution, not in the mountains of books in libraries which are published but not read."

He emphasized that the Malvinas Islands patriotic deed was a blow to the country but that the country must now turn inward to face the future on unity of concepts.

Asked about the state of the Argentine soldiers in the Malvinas Islands, he said that there is concrete information that there are no problems with the detained personnel.

In conclusion he said that "their return as soon as possible is the concern of all officials and I believe that this is going to be expedited today so that these personnel can reunite with their families."

COMMUNIQUE ON TRANSFER OF 549 WOUNDED

PY171739 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1723 GMT 17 June 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 167]

[Text] The Joint Staff reports the following in connection with the transfer of wounded from the Malvinas area to the continent:

1. That these transfers are being carried out normally on board the Argentine hospital ships Almirante Irazar, Bahia Paraiso and Puerto Deseado;

2. That the operation is being carried out regularly and that no problems have developed after the events of Puerto Argentino;

3. That from the start of the conflict up to today, 17 June 1982, 549 wounded have been transfered and hospitalized in several hospitals on the continent.

TROOPS' REPATRIATION SET FOR 18 JUN

PY180125 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0109 GMT 18 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (NA) -- The Foreign Ministry has reported that the Argentine troops captured on the Malvinas will begin to be transported tomorrow from the archipelago to the continent.

The prisoners will be transferred on ships and possibly in planes.

HERALD SAYS SOVIET MIG PURCHASE CONSIDERED

PY180321 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 17 Jun 82 p 11

[Text] The Argentine Government is considering the purchase of 100 sophisticated Soviet-made warplanes, a military source said yesterday.

A decision on the deal, said to involve MiG-23 and MiG-25 jets, should be reached by next week, the source told the HERALD.

The final decision will apparently depend on the attitude Britain and the United States take towards Argentina following the latter's surrender on the Malvinas Islands.

Payment for the planes would be in grain shipments rather than in hard currency, the source said, with an interest rate of less than nine percent per annum and one year's grace.

Details of the deal were discussed during recent meetings between the Soviet ambassador to Argentina, Sergev Striganov, and Argentina's highest authorities, the source said.

The Soviet offer is said to include pilots to train their Argentine counterparts. Any losses during the training period would be replaced free of charge by the Soviets, the source said.

MiG Report 'Ridiculous'

PY171758 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (NA) -- A spokesman of the air force said that he is absolutely unaware that Argentina is planning to purchase 100 Soviet MiG aircraft.

The report was published today by the Buenos Aires HERALD, citing military sources. Asked about his report, the air force spokesman labeled it "absolutely ridiculous."

He speculated that the report could have originated in a reaction, from some sector, which cannot understand the defeat suffered in Puerto Argentino.

According to the newspaper, the final decision will depend on the attitude adopted by Great Britain and the United States toward Argentina after the cease-fire.

The spokesman said: "The military outcome does not mean that we would be obliged to turn to the Soviet Union because this would just be making a reaction, an irrational act."

MEETING WITH POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS CANCELED

PY171849 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1832 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (TELAM) -- The meeting that was scheduled for this afternoon between political party leaders and the interior minister has been suspended, an Interior Ministry spokesman reported.

The spokesman added that the political leaders who were to attend the meeting were notified of the cancellation by telephone at 1500.

JUSTICIALIST LEADER ON NEED FOR EMERGENCY PLAN

PY180415 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0255 GMT 18 Jun 82

[Text] Resistencia, 18 Jun (TELAM) -- When Deolindo Felipe Bittel, first vice president of the Justicialist Party, was asked his opinion on the retirement of Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri he asserted that it was foreseeable due to the way events were developing. Bittel added that this is a problem of the armed forces government.

Taking for granted that General Galtieri's presidential term is also over, the former Chaco Province governor stated that the government which replaces the current one should draw up an emergency program which will have the support of the civilians.

He added that the new government should establish an electoral timetable which will lift the ban on political activities and will return the power to the people through elections which should be carried out free of proscriptions of any kind.

UCR LEADER CONTIN ON REPLACEMENT OF GALTIERI

PY180059 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2126 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (NA) -- Today Carlos Contin, leader of the Radical Civic Union (UCR), stated his hope that the replacement of Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri "will serve to hasten the country's institutionalization process."

This afternoon when NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS asked him to give his opinion on the appointment of Gen Cristino Nicolaides as new commander in chief of the army, he stated that "it was obvious that a change was going to take place, now we must wait for the developments."

Contin also voiced his hopes that "a military cohesion should exist in order to overcome the developments in a normal way."

He stated that "the military junta had established deadlines for this military period, but how ironic, the government ended before the deadlines they had established were up."

The UCR leader stated that his party as well as the Multiparty Group will "still continue to struggle for the prompt return to constitutional normality. I hope that this replacement will serve to hasten the country's institutionalization process."

He thought the Multiparty Group could "meet during the next few hours, or maybe tomorrow" in order to discuss the latest developments, although he pointed out that "now, more than ever, politicians and military men throughout the entire country should act cautiously and prudently."

He then stated that "now, more than ever, the national Constitution should be placed above all interests."

COMMENTARY VIEWS NEW GOVERNMENT POSSIBILITIES

PY180043 Paris AFP in Spanish 2206 GMT 17 Jun 82

[By Michel Henault]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (AFP) -- Argentina today resolutely entered the post-Malvinas era with the forced resignation of Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, president of the republic and commander in chief of the army, who hadbeen obstinate in continuing the war against Great Britain.

According to military sources, Argentina will now establish a transitional government, awaiting the return to democracy which is the final stage of the national reorganization process, implemented by the military the day after the coup d'etat which in March 1976 overthrew the government of Maria Estela Martinez de Peron.

According to reliable sources, the military officers who dismissed General Galtieri from his offices plan to install a civilian-military government with a civilian as president of the republic.

According to the same sources, this civilian will be no other than current Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, who stood out more and more during the difficult moments of the conflict over the Malvinas.

According to the idea of the new Argentine leaders, the new government will still be supported by the junta, which will continue as the supreme government organ until the elections which the political leaders are demanding take place as soon as possible.

The junta, within which Lt Gen Basilio Lami Dozo and Adm Jorge Anaya were confirmed by their respective branches -- the air force and the navy -- will be rounded out by Gen Cristino Nicolaides, the new commander in chief of the army.

General Nicolaides had been commander of I Corps headquartered in Buenos Aires, and in general is considered a hardline officer.

Awaiting the new government structures which will be studied by the new junta, Gen Alfredo Saint Jean (?continuing) his role as interior minister, will be interim president until the designation of the 41st president of the republic.

It was not easy to achieve the resignation of General Galtieri, who became president of the republic thanks to the first palace revolution which separated Gen Roberto Viola from power only 6 months ago.

Gen Jose Antonio Vaquero, army chief of staff, was charged by his air force and navy counterparts -- with the agreement of the other military chiefs of the two branches -- with obtaining the resignation of his chief, whose term in office was supposed to end in March 1984.

Finally, a prisoner in his Campo de Mayo residence, Galtieri, 56 years of age, who saw himself marching in the steps of Peron during the recovery of the Malvinas on 2 April, agreed to resign on Thursday afternoon in the historic Casa Rosada. In preparation for what was being planned there, strict security measures involving a number of armed soldiers were instituted.

Military sources stated that General Galtieri was inhibiting any process of repatriation of thousands of Argentine prisoners and the beginning of negotiations with Great Britain by refusing to accept the defeat and capitulation of Gen Mario Benjamin Menendez in the Malvinas.

His message to the nation -- broadcast on Tuesday evening while downtown Buenos Aires was in a state of agitation -- did not give the explanations and clarifications expected by the Argentine people.

On the contrary, Galtieri did not express himself in defeatist terms, but took the liberty of threatening Great Britain.

In addition to the installation of a civilian as head of a transitional government, the junta will have to decide between two possible options, according to rumors that were circulating tonight among military and government circles.

The decision could involve a revolving presidency among the three junta members. The honor of inaugurating the new cycle would be given to Lt Gen Basilio Lami Dozo, whose pilots were crowned with glory in the South Atlantic skies.

The third possibility would be to designate as president a retired military officer as in the case of General Viola who was forced by General Galtieri to resign in December 1981.

Regardless of the option adopted, and considering the current interim period in the hands of General Saint Jean, the next president of the republic will be the seventh president presented to Argentina in a period of 15 months.

After the departure of Gen Jorge Rafael Videla in March 1981, the following presidents passed through Casa Rosada: General Viola, Gen Tomas Liendo and Vice Adm Alberto Lacoste (the latter two as interim presidents between General Viola and Galtieri), General Galtieri and, finally, and awaiting the next one, General Saint Jean.

ECONOMY MINISTRY NOTES RISE IN INFLATION

PY171422 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1308 GMT 15 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Jun (NA) -- The National Statistics and Census Institute (INDEC) has reported that food prices increased by 2.5 percent during the first week of June.

This increase is five times higher than the one during the same period of May. This increase was corroborated with the price index drawn by the INDEC weekly on the basis of foodstuffs.

The increase in the price of food during the second week of June is unknown thus far because the data collected by the INDEC has not been processed yet. Prices are expected to have increased substantially during the second week of June due to the high rise in the price of beef. Meat products suffered a 30 percent increase sometime ago, but the price has remained steady since then.

The Economy Ministry has noted that the increase in prices shows that the inflationary process has speeded up.

Conversely, it is expected that the average increase in the wholesale price index will not be higher than the one in May 1982.

During May 1982, the consumer price index increased by 3.1 percent and the wholesale price index by 9.2 percent.

TRADE PROSPECTS DISCUSSED WITH CZECH OFFICIALS

PY171325 Buenos Aires TELAM In Spanish 2250 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jun (TELAM) -- Ambassador Felix Pena, the Foriegn Ministry under secretary for international economic relations, today received Eng Juroslav Jacubec, the Czechoslovak deputy foreign trade minister. Jacubec reasserted his country's support for Argentina in the South Atlantic conflict and its interest in purchasing Argentine grain.

According to Jacubec, Czechoslovakia intends to buy significant amounts of soybean, corn, wheat, oil seeds, and that it is interested in the tender for the works to remodel the Lujan de Cuyo powerplant.

During the meeting, Engineer Jacubec said that many aspects of the bilateral exchange may be doubled or tripled in light of the good prospects this exchange offers.

LABOR MINISTER RETURNS FROM ILO CONFERENCE

PY171252 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1235 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (TELAM) -- Upon returning from Geneva today, Labor Minister Julio Cesar Porcile said that from now on the watchword of all the Argentines wil be to wage the everyday battle.

Porcile, who returned to the country after participating in the conference of the International Labor Organization, told journalists at Ezeiza Airport that he had no knowledge about the cabinet having been asked to resign. However, Porcile said that the president always has the ministers' resignation in hand.

CENTRAL BANK TO REGULATE INTEREST RATES

PY172257 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2120 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (NA) -- Planning Secretary Brig Jose Miret this afternoon told the heads of the associations of the main banks of the country that the Central Bank will regulate interest rates.

Miret, who summoned the bankers today, told them that the measure will be taken in order to reactivate the productive system by reducing the cost of money.

It has been learned that interest rates will be fixed at a level below the monthly increase in the price indexes.

One of the persons who attended the meeting said that Miret did not mention the possibility that he may become economy minister.

The meeting was attended by executives of the Association of Banks of the Argentine Republic (ABRA), of the Argentina Bank Association (ADEBA), of the Federation of Rural Banks and of the Federation of Cooperative Banks.

LABOR MINISTER ENDS INTERVENTION OF UNIONS

PY171243 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2225 GMT 8 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (TELAM) -- Labor Minister Julio Porcile ruled that the intervention of eight union organizations of the country be ended. These organizations will be managed by transitory commissions made up of the workers themselves.

The union organizations referred to are: the Personal Union of Commercial, Industrial and Private Investigations Security; the Federation of Unions of State Petroleum Workers, Vespucio branch; Union of Light Diesel Engine Workers; Union of Ceramics Industries Workers (SALTA); Union of Godoy Cruz Municipality Workers and Employees; Association of General Taxation Board Employees; Union of Sanitary Works Agency Personnel (Corrientes); Union of Ceramic, Porcelain and Tile Workers (Branch No 4, La Focra).

SPOKESMAN EXPLAINS COUNTRY'S POLICY ON FALKLANDS

PY171319 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 16 Jun 82 p 6

[Text] Brasilia -- The Brazilian Government will continue to oppose any attempt at transforming the Malvinas Islands into a military base "of the United States, Great Britain or any other country," according to reports circulating yesterday at Itamaraty. Foreign Ministry Spokesman Bernardo Pericas noted that the government already publicly expressed its position on the South Atlantic, having primarily emphasized its desire that the region remain demilitarized.

Pericas added that thus far the Brazilian Government has not received any communication as to its possible participation in an international administration of the Malvinas. He added: "The government will only consider the possibility of helping administer the islands if the initiative were made under the aegis of the United Nations or if Argentines and British agreed on requesting a Brazilian presence."

Pericas stated that at this moment, in which the Malvinas war is coming to an end, Brazil does not intend to propose any reformulation of the structure of the inter-American system. "The instruments of the continent, such as the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty and the OAS, among others, should reflect reality and their structures should be changed accordingly. But this cannot be done overnight," he said. He expressed hope that "the reorganization of the system could have greater significance for the continent than the Malvinas incident in itself."

JAPAN'S SUZUKI ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS FOR HOME

OW160055 Tokyo KYODO in English 0006 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Brasilia June 15 KYODO -- Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki left here for home via Honolulu Tuesday morning after completing his visit to Brazil.

Prior to his departure from Brasilia, Japan and Brazil announced a joint press statement which said that Prime Minister Suzuki and Brazilian President Joao Baptista de Figueiredo reconfirmed their support of the role played by the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security. It said the two leaders expressed apprehension over the recent armament race, particularly the recurrence of the nuclear weapon competition, and revealed their intention to exert utmost efforts so that the current U.N. special session on disarmament will end with fruitful results.

The statement also said Suzuki and Figueiredo expressed satisfaction over the fact that agreement has been reached on Japan's extension of a $500 million loan for development of iron ore resources in Carajas. The president, it said, highly evaluated Japan's cooperation to promote an irrigation program in regions containing acid soil called "cerrado." The statement said Prime Minister Suzuki revealed that Japan planned to take necessary measures for extension of yen credits amount to yen 12,021 million (about $48 million) for the irrigation program.

The statement also said both sides agreed to continue to actively promote technological cooperation between the two countries and expand bilateral trade and revealed Suzuki expressed readiness to conduct negotiations for conclusion of a scientific and technological cooperation agreement.

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY CITED IN MASSACRE

PA171255 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] (Juan Rodriguez Monica), a peasant who survived the Cuantepec massacre of 2 June, testified today before the Chichontepec court in Juarez, Puebla. (Rodriguez Monica) said that on 30 May, an individual named (Renicio), allegedly a member of the Socialist Workers Party, showed the peasants at (Quitaflores) a document and told them that they could take possession of 300 hectares of a new estate.

(Rodriguez Monica) reported that 3 days after the land was occupied, dozens of men armed with machineguns and pistols formed a circle around the peasants and began to fire at them. Several of his colleagues were killed immediately and other were murdered in the sheds they had built the day they occupied the land.

NOTIMEX VIEWS PRESIDENT REAGAN'S EUROPEAN TOUR

FL171417 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1719 GMT 16 Jun 82

[NOTIMEX editorial by Sadot Fabila Hernandez: "Ronald Reagan Blames USSR for U.S. Failures"]

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- All did not go well for Ronald Reagan on his tour of Western Europe. Some of the political and economic aims which he hoped to achieve, partially or totally failed. The final results of his tour may be known more accurately in the immediate future.

In Paris, as in Rome, London and Bonn, the presence of the U.S. President was marked by numerous demonstrations repudiating the dangerous warmongering policies which Washington has imposed everywhere.

And it was in London that Reagan suffered one of his worst setbacks when he stated his views before the British Parliament. The setback stood out singularly in view of the much-touted alliance between the United States and Great Britain in the Anglo-Argentine conflict over the Malvinas Archipelago.

Proof of such a sudden setback was demonstrated in a news release from London which said: "Addressing the British Parliament, President Ronald Reagan offered to lead a 'world crusade for freedom' which would leave Marxism-Leninism buried 'under the ashes of history'...". And the story goes on to say: "...Responding to Reagan's statement, the British Labor Party accused the U.S. President of considering international relations simply as a struggle against the Soviet Union and rejected any such ideological crusade against Moscow and its label as the one and only source of conflict in the world...".

The London news release also asserts the following: "Of the 635 parliamentarians, some 20 Labor Party representatives did not attend the session at which Reagan spoke, in open rejection of his foreign policy. Meanwhile, outside the building thousands of pacifists shouted protest against Ronald Reagan's presence in Great Britain...".

This matter, in itself is not unusual yet very enlightening, speaks of one of the greatest blunders of Yankee foreign policy when in such a grotesque manner it tries to eliminate the practical possibility of peaceful coexistence between the camp the picturesque ghost chaser is trying and has tried to throw the universal theory of Marxism-Leninism onto the ash heap of history. [sentence as received]

Surely, the British Labor Party parlamentarians' rejection, vehemently questioning Reagan's views on foreign policy, is unquestionable, because the greatest problems prevailing in the world have more to do with the decisions made by Washington than with the validity of communist philosophy or the physical presence of the Soviet Union.

It is clear that the serious crisis in Western Europe essentially emanates from its own conditions and also from the conflicting economic ties which those countries have with the United States -- a matter with which the USSR has little concern. Further, there is the deplorable situation prevailing in the Third World, which to a large degree is due to the capitalist countries' practice of grabbing the lion's share in its business deals with underdeveloped countries. Therefore, the foreign policy practiced by President Ronald Reagan stands out once again as conflictive, capricious and hence, contrary to the general hope for peace, as it considers the world its hunting grounds where it may exterminate even imaginary figures.

EMBASSY CLOSED IN LEBANON DUE TO FIGHTING

FL172245 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2130 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's Foreign Secretariat today announced that its embassy in Lebanon had been closed because of the lack of guarantees for the lives of diplomats as a result of the armed conflict between Israel and Lebanon.

The Mexican Foreign Secretariat explained that last night's closing of the embassy was temporary, and that Ambassador Guillermo Corona Munoz and three other foreign service officers had left Lebanon. No information was given as to their whereabouts. It was further stated that Mexican diplomatic relations with Lebanon will continue. The Secretariat explained that there were difficulties for the Mexican diplomats to maintain contact with the Lebanese Government, mainly due to the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon. There were no guarantees for the security of the members of the Mexican mission, which is why the embassy was closed, the secretariat said in closing.

SOMEX ANNOUNCES CREDITS FROM FRENCH BANKS

FL172339 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2200 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Five French banks have granted to Mexico credits amounting to 350 million frances, equivalent to 2.5 billion pesos, for industrial programs, the Mexican Society for Industrial Credit [Somex] has announced.

Somex Director Mario Ramon Beteta explained that credit conditions are "especially favorable" for Mexico because they are long-term and with reduced interest rates. Payments could be extended over a period of 9 years with 1 1/2 years of grace, during which time no capital is repaid and the interest rates are low, compared to the variable ones which will be reviewed regularly for adjustment.

The French banks participating in the credits are the National Bank of Paris, the French Foreign Trade Bank, the Bank for Industrial and Commercial Credit, the Bank of Indochina and Suez and the Worms Bank.

The loan document was signed at the Foreign Secretariat. During the signing ceremony Beteta noted the French banking industry's confidence in Mexican industrial programs. The credits will be used in Mexico-France coinvestments and other projects to be developed in the automotive, petrochemical and chemical branches.

The loan signing ceremony was part of the agenda being observed by French Minister of State for Foreign Trade Michel Jobert during his visit to Mexico, and is one more demonstration of the two governments' interest in stepping up economic relations.

COSTA RICA

SALVADORAN PRESIDENT MAGANA ARRIVES ON VISIT

PA171705 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1646 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] San Jose, 17 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana arrived at the Juan Santamaria Airport at 1025 today (1625 GMT) and was received by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge. Magana arrived with several members of his cabinet for a visit of a few hours. The Central American political situation will reportedly be the principal subject of the conversations between Monge and Magana.

Joint Statement

PA172358 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2112 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Joint declaration issued by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge and Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana Borja in San Jose on 17 June 1982, read by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez -- live]

[Text] [Initial words rendered indistinct by announcer's comments] ...the two presidents held friendly and lengthy talks. The Salvadoran president offered the Costa Rican president an explanation of the main aspects of his country's developments since 28 March, when the Salvadoran people ratified their faith in democratic principles and chose the path of liberty and peace by which to achieve the justice and well-being that they deserve. He also explained the constructive position of the Salvadoran political forces, which are determined to attain, in a common and solidaristic effort, the consolidation of democratic institutions through the active participation of all citizens.

He reiterated his intention to guide his administration in accordance with his people's will and aspirations, as well as to devote his efforts to the country's pacification and harmony.

President Magana Borja said that he wants to contribute to the effective development of harmonious relations among the Central American countries and to support efforts to promote and maintain democracy, peace and cooperation. He stressed the important role that Costa Rica can play in these matters, as a solid democratic bastion in the area.

President Monge said that he was pleased to see that there was a coincidence in views as to democratic coexistence and the peaceful goals explained by President Magana Borja. He expressed hope for the well-being of the Salvadorans and said that he hopes that they can overcome all adversity in their plan to attain economic development and to consolidate their democratic advances.

The Costa Rican president said that he was pleased with the visit of President Magana Borja and his delegation. He said that it strengthens the two nations' fraternal ties and allows the two governments to better see the realities they are facing. This visit lays the foundations for the promotion of bilateral cultural and trade activities and for the two countries' constructive participation in analysis of and efforts to improve the situation affecting Central America.

The two presidents stressed the Central American countries' right to full and autonomous development. They also agreed that their relations must be based on international law. They expressed respect for human rights and said that they oppose the arms buildup, which threatens peace in Central America. They agreed on the need to review and develop the Central American Democratic Community so that it can function on firm foundations and can facilitate the implementation of its goals.

They also agreed to make every possible effort to create the necessary conditions for the reactivation and improvement of Central American integration.

In examining the region's economic situation, they agreed to take the necessary steps to obtain international financial assistance and better prices for basic exports. In this context, they said that they are willing to adopt solidaristic positions and to consult as necessary. In conclusion, the Salvadoran president expressed appreciation for the attention accorded him and invited the Costa Rican president to visit his country.

STATION CRITICIZES PRESIDENT MONGE FOR INACTION

PA180320 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] A month and a week is enough time to allow a prediction of what could happen during 4 years of this administration. In fact, between election day in February and Monge's inauguration in May we had already arrived at a clear idea of what would happen. We had placed too much hope in the victory of a National Liberation Party government and in the achievements of a man whom we had all learned to respect over many years.

The first serious symptom was the legislative assembly's early division into factions. Even before taking office, some members were pulling the rug out from under others. The same was true in the area of appointments and in the distribution of public posts.

It is painful to see that President Monge is neither adopting nor demanding the adoption of vigorous solutions to our problems. The doctors' strike was a mortal blow. The government prohibited the strike in a humiliating fashion. Now the sugarcane growers have calmly declared that they will sell only to their affiliates, in order to press for a new price hike. And to this must be added the brain drain, the upcoming chain on strikes and the chaos resulting from the escalation of prices, which will hurt the consumer more each day.

One has to admit that in a month and a week it has not been possible to do anything, because no clear definitions or policies exist.

Monge Alvarez is disappointing his electors, his friends, his supporters and even the people, who had placed their hopes in him. If this government fails, it will be very difficult to rescue democracy in the future. We could go from economic chaos to political chaos. We are nearly there already. The 15-day trip to the United States with a luxurious delegation in tow is something we could never have imagined would take place. Dollars belonging to the people, dollars that could be used for medicines and fertilizer, will be spent for 2 weeks of vacation. This is a sad spectacle, which should lead us to reflect on Costa Rica's future.

LA NACION WARNS AGAINST CUBAN 'TRADE DELEGATION'

PA171300 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 11 Jun 82 p 14A

[Editorial: "The Cubans Have Arrived"]

[Text] From time to time, as a result of efforts by intermediaries who are not always identified, diplomatic agents disguised as merchants travel to and from this country in an effort to establish links between Cuba and Costa Rica. These relations existed in the not-too-remote past and do not generate pleasant memories in our country. During the previous administration, they bore fruits with which we are all familiar. Among the most prominent was that the Cuban consul in San Jose served as liaison between high-ranking officials and Sandinist guerrillas in order to establish an efficient airlift of the weapons, equipment, and ammunition used to overthrow Somoza. As the extensive file accumulated by the Special Investigatory Commission on the transshipment of weapons proves, and as the deputies have concluded, Cuba was the source of most of the rifles, machineguns, and bullets which were partly used for the Nicaraguan struggle, and partly to supply local armed groups.

It is uncertain how many of these weapons were sent to the so-called southern front, how many of them remained in Costa Rica, and in whose hands they were left. What we do know is that since then, many armed terrorist groups have emerged locally and a few small arsenals have been confiscated from local politicians.

Reports now indicate that some Cuban trade delegations are "seeking to restablish relations in Costa Rica." As usual, the bait is that Costa Rican products could be exported to Havana and Cuba could send us tobacco and rum. However, records show that past trade was very slight, since in reality, the Cubans do not drink our coffee and we do not need their booze. The real purpose of these contacts, as recent history shows, has always been to bring in agents disguised as buyers and at the same time to beef up the income of certain law firms.

For the moment, it has been reported that three of these agents met with merchants and industrialists to propose several business projects. We know their names and the nature of their proposals. An offer of newly developed industrial equipment at bargain prices, and free of interest, could be very tempting to some businessmen. What the Cubans are really trying to do is renew contacts that had been broken in the previous administration, when the influence of some former officials was not enough to hide the obvious; that the Cubans were not interested in trade; they wanted to establish a beachhead here.

It is interesting to note that it was also during the previous administration that these Cuban delegates had to leave and that now, under an administration which has clearly defined the rules of the game with communist countries, they have dared to return, at least to "check out the lay of the land".

EL SALVADOR

AFP REPORTS DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER KILLED

PA180241 Paris AFP in Spanish 0214 GMT 18 Jun 82

[Text] San Salvador, 17 Jun (AFP) -- the clandestine radio station "Radio Venceremos," FMLN spokesman, announced today that Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo, deputy defense minister of El Salvador, has died in combat. According to Venceremos, a helicopter was downed at 1700 today by guerrilla fire over the village of Azacualpa, a few km north of San Fernando in Morazan Department, as fierce clashes were taking place.

Castillo told newsmen early today that he would fly to the eastern department of Morazan to inspect "the largest counterinsurgency operation ever launched by the army." The operation was intended to evict the guerrillas who recently occupied the township of Perquin, isolated San Francisco, the department capital, and took control of a large area near the Honduran border.

The rebels, the station reported, reached the area where the aircraft fell and found two bodies, one of them with documents identifying Col Adolfo Castillo and the other without identification. According to the report, three crewmembers from the helicopter fled the scene of the accident.

At the site, the rebels "recovered an M-16 rifle with four clips, two 9-mm pistols, two clips for G-3 rifles and other war material." Venceremos added that "20 minutes after the helicopter was downed, another one that arrived at the scene with the apparent intention of picking up the bodies was also downed."

The report of Castillo's death was given to the rebel station by guerrilla Commander Claudio Armijo, "Francisco," the leader of the forces that at this moment "are maintaining an encirclement of San Fernando, where 200 army troops are under siege," according to this version, which has yet to be confirmed by official sources.

ARMY REPORTS INCREASE IN FIGHTING AROUND PERQUIN

PA172258 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1801 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] The fighting between guerrillas and army troops around Perquin has increased in the past few hours. The rebels occupied Perquin on 5 June.

According to military reports, the government troops have been forced to march to Perquin, in Morazan Department, on foot, because of the broken terrain and the heavy rains that have been falling the last few days. The troops' slow advance has rendered the implementation of a pincer operation very difficult. The Atlacatl Battalion trained by U.S. advisers here, and the Ramon Belloso Battalion, trained in counterinsurgency struggle in the United States, are participating in the pursuit of the rebels.

The rebels recently called upon the International Red Cross to agree on a turnover of captured soldiers. Col Rafael Flores Lima, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, admitted Monday that certain army members are missing but explained that they have only been reported as missing to date, as they may still return to their military bases in the next few days. Flores Lima also guaranteed on Monday that the Perquin situation would be under control within 72 hours and that the situation elsewhere was calm.

According to a local newspaper, the civilian population in San Francisco Gotera, capital of Morazan Department, is undergoing a difficult situation. Residents of that community said that they are facing communications problems because of the destruction of the bridge over the (Seco) River, which the guerrillas recently dynamited. This isolation from the rest of the country has resulted in a food shortage, made worse by the lack of potable water in the city. In addition, the electricity is cut daily; at times the people have gone as much as 4 days without it. Rebel groups dynamited two electric towers in Tonacatepeque, 16 km from San Salvador, on Tuesday and, according to official reports, attacked the homes and garrison of the security forces in that town. There have been no reports of victims in the attack in Tonacatepeque.

DEFENSE MINISTER CALLS FOR 'WISER' U.S. AID

PA171715 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0829 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 17 Jun (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Salvadoran defense minister, who has just received a shipment of 10 military planes from the United States, has called for wiser U.S. assistance in the struggle against the leftist guerrillas and to reestablish the country's damaged economy. "What we received from the United States is not sufficient," Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia told LATIN-REUTER in an exclusive interview last night, one day after U.S. Ambassador Deane Hinton delivered the six ground attack planes and four reconaisance planes at the military airport near San Salvador.

"We need more U.S. aid, not only military, but economic as well," said the general. "The planes will help us achieve our goals, but they are not decisive against the subversives," Colonel Garcia said.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Tierra Blanca Bridge Blown

PA151515 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 14 Jun 82

[War report from Southeastern Francisco Sanchez Front -- recorded]

[Text] On Saturday, 12 June, during the night, the FMLN forces advanced silently to take up positions in Tierra Blanca.

At 2340 our forces blew up the Tierra Blanca bridge over the Potrero River between kms 84 and 85 of the coastal highway. Transportation over this important highway was completely interrupted. Minutes after the bridge was blown up, a 5-minute firefight broke out. United to fight until the final victory, revolution or death, we shall win.

Guazapa Hill Action

PA161900 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] From the heroic Guazapa Hill we get the following information: As we disclosed in our 12 June broadcast , the enemy bombed and machinegunned positions in the area of Las Delicias, and in infantry advance was repelled by our forces. We caused them an unknown number of casualties.

On Sunday, 13 June, the enemy withdrew those forces and sent troops from those stationed [words indistinct] to their decimated troops in Morazan. We attacked reinforcements at 0900 between km 44 and km 45 of the Calle Nueva. Our guerrilla squadrons, led by Companero Reve, attacked those reinforcements heading for Morazan. They destroyed one truck and inflicted 12 casualties. Our companeros at Guazapa withdrew with some difficulty, due to the superior number of enemy forces, but did not suffer any casualties.

Issued at Guazapa Hill, 15 June 1982, year of the great popular victories. Signed, Commander Raul Hercules.

Paracentral Front Report

PA162116 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] We now have additional military reports, this time from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front:

From San Pedro. On Monday, 14 June, at 10:35 pm, FMLN forces led by Companero (Wigilo) ambushed a military convoy moving west to east on the Pan-American Highway, near the El Sitio canton. Our forces used RPG bazookas and rifles. Many of the troops' transportation trucks were hit. The attack took place approximately 10 meters away from the highway. [words indistinct] as well as the destruction of [words indistinct]. The enemy replied with intense rifle fire. Our forces easily withdrew. United to win until the victory! Revolution or death! We will win! [Signed] Commander (Bejamin Landanedo).

Army Losses Cited

PA162257 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] Throughout the country, our people are proving that they have the military capacity to win the war against their oppressors. In Morazan alone, our revolutionary army seized 102 (?G3) rifles, 6 M1 carbines, 3 (?FAL) rifles and 2 Czechoslovak rifles in the last few hours. A total of 113 firearms have been seized in Morazan.

We have also seized the following support weapons: 3 81-mm mortars, with projectiles [quantity not specified]; 2 90-mm cannons, with ammunition; 2 M60 machineguns, walkie talkies and over 25,000 assorted rounds of ammunition.

During these attacks, we have inflicted 200 casualties on the dictatorship's forces and captured 93 war prisoners, including a Salvadoran Army officer.

More on Guazapa Hill

PA162305 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] Now we have more military reports from the heroic hill of Guazapa. On 14 June, at 10:30 pm, the Commander Carlos [word indistinct] squad, led by commander (William Rivera), encircled an air force squad guarding the bridge located 2 km from the city of San Martin, on the Pan-American Highway.

Our revolutionary forces erected barricades to the east and west of the road. The clash lasted until 11 pm. There were no enemy reinforcements. During this operation, we inflicted [words indistinct]. Our revolutionary forces easily withdrew. United to fight until the final victory! Revolution or death! We will win! [Signed] Commander Alejandro Montenegro.

Post Attacked

PA162308 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] On 12 June at 2300, forces of our vanguard, the FMLN, attacked the enemy post at Guajoyo, San Vicente Department. Our forces surrounded the post for 6 hours and withdrew at 0520. The enemy suffered seven casualties. We regret the deaths of two heroic FMLN fighters. One step forward for our dead!

Honduran Collusion Charged

PA170227 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] In view of our revolutionary forces, growing advance and the Salvadoran Army's inability to stop our people in its own right, the dictatorship has had to resort to direct support from the Honduran Army.

We have charged in previous broadcasts that Salvadoran Defense Minister Gen Guillermo Garcia talked via telephone with Honduran Army Chief Gen Gustavo Alvarez on 9 June to coordinate military operations against the FMLN. The following day provisional Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana flew to Honduras to formalize arrangements for military assistance from the Honduran Army to the Salvadoran dictatorship.

The administration of President Roberto Suazo Cordova and General Alvarez is taking dangerous steps, which may result in a regionalization of the war throughout Central America, thus belying Suazo's avowed intention to internationalize peace.

The Reagan administration is using Honduras as a beachhead from which to attack the Guatemalan and Salvadoran revolutionary movements and, at the same time, to support the Somozist bands that are sowing terror along the Nicaraguan border. The Reagan administration is exerting great efforts to turn Honduras into an instrument of Yankee intervention in Central America. Suazo and Alvarez (?are part) of these plans for intervention.

Imperialism has increased the number of U.S. advisers there, which exceeds the number of advisers in our own country. In addition to training pilots and interventionist forces, the advisers are helping to create and to strengthen two kinds of forces; a counter-insurgency force, to fight the revolutionary movements in Guatemala and El Salvador; and a force of regular troops with which to attack the Nicaraguan revolution.

Here are some of the interventionist steps Suazo and Alvarez have taken: [word indistinct] C-130 planes, each carrying over 20 tons of arms, have arrived in Tegucigalpa in the last few nights. Part of the material that is being stockpiled in Honduras is intended for use in bolstering the Honduran and Guatemalan Armies, while another portion will go to the Somozist counterrevolutionary bands in Nicaragua.

Further evidence that the government of Suazo Cordova and of General Alvarez is helping to implement the Reagan administration's interventionist plans is that the Honduran island of Amapala, in the Gulf of Fonseca, is being used as a U.S. military base.

(?We) again appeal to democratic sectors both inside and outside the Honduran Government, to the Honduran people and to all of the world's peoples to take a stand against the aggressive policies of the Reagan administration and of the Suazo-Alvarez government and to help avert the probable spread of the war throughout Central America.

Helicopter Damaged

PA171920 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 17 Jun 82

[War bulletin from the Francisco Sanchez Eastern Front; no date given]

[Text] Morazan -- On Tuesday, 15 June, at 1335, a helicopter of the dictatorship that was flying over (La Cruzita) hill was damaged by our rifle fire. Immediately after being hit by our companeros, the helicopter landed in Jocoaitique. Another of the dictatorship's helicopters has been damaged.

At 1639 on the same day, our forces ambushed a patrol of troops from the Atlacatl Battalion and Ramon Belloso Brigade [as heard] at the San Luis turnoff on the highway between Jocoaitique and Perquin. The enemy had at least two casualties and fled in panic.

Minister's Helicopter Downed

PA180430 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 18 Jun 82

[Text] As we reported earlier, FMLN forces downed a military helicopter that was carrying Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo, under secretary of defense, and Col Salvador Beltran Luna, chief of the 6th Infantry Brigade from the San Francisco Gotera Garrison. We are now going to establish contact with the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front command for a report on the military activities carried out in Morazan Department and for details of the downing of that helicopter. Commander Mercedes del Carmen Letona, "Commander Louisa," in charge of the Radio Venceremos system, will report to our people. Go ahead:

[Begin relay] War report from the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front. The general command of the front reports to the peoples of El Salvador and the world on the results of the battles that were waged in Morazan Department today, within the "Commander Gonzalo, hero of Usulutan" military campaign. This military campaign is being conducted at a time when the national army has concentrated about 4,000 men representing combined forces, including the Atlacatl, Belloso and Atonatl Battalions. The Atlacatl and Belloso Battalions are directly led by their commanders, Lt Col Domingo Monterrosa and Lt Col Miguel Antonio Mendez. That concentration of forces is a reply to the crushing defeat that they have suffered in this zone from 5 June, when our "Commander Gonzalo, Hero of Usulutan" campaign began.

The battles between our forces and the enemy began early today. The enemy forces were trying to advance on the road from Jocoaitique to Perquin in the following places: [name indistinct] hill, [words indistinct]. The enemy had the support of 105-mm artillery, 120-mm and 81-mm mortars and helicopters for this advance. At 1300, an A-37 airplane of unknown origin attacked our positions near Perquin. It dropped six bombs, which exploded in a shelter for residents of the area. At 1045 our forces staged an attack against the enemy's rearguard with 81-mm mortars. We inflicted five casualties on the enemy's artillery units stationed near Jocoaitique.

Today, our revolutionary forces further tightened the siege that they are maintaining on the town of San Fernando, where 250 soldiers of the enemy's army are surrounded. On 6 June, our forces attacked the positions of the [words indistinct] and recovered the following war material: 6 G-3 rifles, 1,500 cartridges, 7 [word indistinct] and other war supplies. At 1645, our forces hit a Huey helicopter gunship.

At 1630, when it was overflying the town of San Fernando, an Alouette helicopter was downed. Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo, under secretary of defense, and Salvador Beltran Luna, commander of the 6th Infantry Brigade, from the counterinsurgency command center of the city of San Francisco Gotera in Morazan Department, were aboard the helicopter. The downed helicopter crashed near our positions. So far, we can only confirm the death of Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo, under secrdtary of defense. Tomorrow we will give further information.

United to fight until the final victory! Revolution or death, we will win!
[Signed] General command of the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front. Commanders Jorge Melendez, first military official; Juan Ramon Medrano, second military official; Claudio Rabin Armijo, third military official; Ana Guadalupe Martinez, in charge of militias and masses; Mercedes del Carmen Letona, in charge of the Venceremos system. [dated] 17 June 1982. [end relay]

GUATEMALA

PROPOSAL FOR DIALOGUE WITH GUERRILLAS ASSESSED

PA172338 Guatemala City Trecevision in Spanish 0130 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Yesterday, Guatemalan President Gen Jose Efrain Rios Montt reiterated his intention of promoting a highlevel meeting with the subversive forces, in search of the peace so badly needed by the country. Today, Lionel Sisniega Otero, leader of the National Liberation Movement, rejected the possibility that the subversives will attend any dialogue or that desirable results will be achieved by it.

Meanwhile in Mexico, Guatemalan writer (Luis Cardoza y Aragon), a leader of the Guatemalan Labor Party who is in exile, rejected the possibility of a dialogue with the Guatemalan Government. Sisniega Otero stressed in this regard that international Marxism never attends a dialogue with the intention of yielding even an inch in its objectives.

(Alfonso Cabrera), leader of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], expressed his party's view on the dialogue between the government and the subversives proposed by Rios Montt yesterday:

[Begin recording] The PDC has always believed that a dialogue is the most effective way to solve the country's problems. We believe in good sense, intelligence and the ability to discuss problems and analyze them rationally. Therefore, we think that the measure is sound in principle. However, we have certain doubts: The Marxist groups in the Central American area have been planning tactics by which to seize power through armed struggle. This is the main goal of their strategy. Consequently, it is not their basic purpose to solve the economic, political, cultural and social crisis in the various countries but to seize power and to impose totalitarian regimes. We feel that the government's intention to seek a dialogue is good, but we have many doubts about its potential efficacy. [end recording]

COMMITTEE CLAIMS NEW U.S. BASE IN EL PETEN

PA161955 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 15 Jun 82

[Text] The Guatemalan Patriotic Unity Committee (CGUP) has revealed the establishment of a U.S. base in Guatemala, arguing that it is the beginning of a large-scale invasion of Central America and is an act of violence against the peoples of the continent who struggle for their freedom. The U.S. military base is located in El Peten Department near the border with Mexico, and will serve to train Latin American commandos specializing in counterinsurgency, says the CGUP.

It adds that the Reagan administration is the No 1 enemy of the peoples of the continent since it supports dictatorial regimes, destabilizes democratic governments, allies with an extracontinental power like Great Britain and threatens world peace because of its warmongering policies.

HAVANA: REBELS BLAMED FOR MURDERS BY REGIME

PA162057 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] Paramilitary groups at the service of the Guatemalan regime murdered 100 people, including women and children, in Chacalte, El Quiche Department. However, reports from Gen Efrain Rios Montt show that the Guatemalan tyranny is trying to blame this massacre on guerrilla forces operating in the region.

At a news conference in Guatemala City, the coupist general said that he has not yet decided how long he will remain in power becuase, according to him, first, the country's political and economic life must be rejuvenated. He added that the rejuvenation of the country's economy may take at least 30 months.

GUERRILLA ARMY DENIES MASSACRE CHARGES

FL171819 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1740 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- The Poor People's Guerrilla Army [EGP] of Guatemala charged here today that while President Efrain Rios Montt speaks of dialogue and amnesty, the Guatemalan Army murdered more than 100 Indians in El Quiche on Tuesday. In a communique released in this city, the EGP, a member of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG), said that the army had declared an extermination war on the people/

It said that the army has warned that once the amnesty expires -- it has not said when -- the state of emergency will be imposed on large areas of the country and antiguerrilla offensive will be launched on a large scale. It stressed that the "workers who belong to Guatemala's revolutionary organizations have nothing to talk about or negotiate. Our only response to those murderers is to wage a revolutionary people's war to end with the establishment of a revolutionary, patriotic, popular and democratic government." Lastly, the EGP accused the Guatemalan regime of making genocide a state policy and of blaming the guerrilla forces for the crime.

HONDURAS

DEMONSTRATORS PROTEST PRESIDENT MAGANA VISIT

PA171505 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Hundreds of peasants, workers and students marched down the streets of Tegucigalpa protesting the visit of Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana.

The Honduran Coordinating Board of Solidarity With the Salvadoran People organized the demonstration while Honduran police guarded Tegucigalpa's bridges and public buildings. The demonstrators, who carried placards rejecting the Salvadoran president's visit, also demanded that the Honduran Government and armed forces end their intervention in the Salvadoran conflict. Riot police kept demonstrators from approaching to the Presidential Palace, where President Roberto Suazo Cordova was holding talks with his Salvadoran counterpart.

SALVADORAN DEFENSE MINISTER VIEWS ARMY'S ROLE

PA172005 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 16 Jun 82 p 2

[Text] Salvadoran Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia has said that "our armed forces -- in both Honduras and El Salvador -- are engaged in a legal resistance, a resistance that reflects not just the feelings of the armed forces, but also the feelings of our peoples."

"Both Honduras and El Salvador are looking to the future, perhaps without realizing it fully ourselves, perhaps without realizing that we are carrying out a process of democratization. You, [presumably the Hondurans] are more advanced, because you have already experienced some phases which we lack. However, the truth is that our armed forces are struggling to defend a system, the democratic system," General Garcia said.

The general said: This is what our armed institutions have been fighting for, and now they are on the side of the people. That is our goal. That is our objective. We are fighting for the democratic system and, of course, against those who oppose that system.

"The primary demonstration of this is our participation in a system of democratization of the people of Honduras and El Salvador, who have participated in clean elections, which have already been judged by people outside our territories," the general said. The general said that the word "democracy" causes pain to others, "because they are incapable of holding elections. In contrast, clean and pure elections have been held in Honduras and El Salvador, elections which have primarily been guaranteed by the armed forces of these two countries, which are now taking on stature in the international field."

General Garcia said that the alleged union of the armies of Honduras and El Salvador to combat the guerrillas is completely nonexistent. He said that "this is a rumor that has been repeated."

NICARAGUA

TINOCO COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH COSTA RICANS

PA180128 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Practically all aspects of Nicaraguan-Costa Rican relations were covered during the meeting between the Costa Rican foreign minister and the Nicaraguan delegation, Acting Foreign Minister Victor Tinoco said today at a news conference on his return from San Jose. Tinoco led a delegation that met with Costa Rican Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez and other Costa Rican Foreign Ministry officials.

Let us listen to Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco: [Begin Tinoco recording in progress] ...all matters relating to relations between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, practically without exception. We discussed the activities of the counterrevolutionary bands, some measures that the Costa Rican Government has taken in this regard, the alleged incursions by some members of the Sandinist Army into Costa Rican territory, certain differences that have cropped up in the interpretation of certain regulatory measures that Nicaragua has applied on the San Juan River and the clear demarcation of the borders between Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

We did not go into a definition of the borders, as they were defined by the (Jerez-Cana) treaty of the past century, of 1858, but we did discuss a clear demarcation of the border, because lengthy stretches of the border have no markers.

All of these problems were discussed at this meeting, which lasted almost 3 hours and which we think was very positive.

As for the placement of border markers, there is interest on both sides in carrying out this effort, which we consider very important, for it would help to reduce disagreements over alleged incrusions by individuals from one side into the other. When no clear markers indicate the border -- which is Costa Rican and which is Nicaraguan territory -- problems can occur.

A commission of experts will be appointed, containing surveyors and engineers from both countries, who will proceed to carry out the respective studies as to cost. It is estimated that the cost will be approximately 7 million colones from each party; that is, a little less than 7 million cordobas. [end recording]

LA PRENSA OWNER VIEWS BROADCASTING CHANGES

PA171355 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] With a big smile, visibly pleased, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios, director and owner of the newspaper LA PRENSA, met with a reporter from "Extra" [name of newscast] for an interview on various subjects. Chamorro Barrios said he was very pleased with the government's decision to suspend the radio network and to authorize the broadcast of several newscasts. However, he said that other newscasts which, according to him, are more independent should be authorized.

Chamorro Barrios added that the wished that the state of emergency would be lifted so that the country could return to a normal political and social situation. However, he replied in a confusing manner when he was asked how this would be possible if the floods have caused so much damage and many traditional politicians have become involved in the counterrevolution. He first indicated that those politicians had not left the country as a result of the floods and then he said that the best reply would be to ask the politicians themselves why they had left, since he has not spoken with any of them. Here is the interview with Chamorro Barrios, owner-director of LA PRENSA:

[Begin recording] [Chamorro Barrios] Well, I think it is great that some newscasts have been left free to go on the air. However, I wish this measure would be extended to other newscasts that the FSLN does not consider very responsible but which other sectors view as the most independent newscasts. In this way, the Nicaraguan public could have a greater diversity of information. I think the network was on for too long and was boring the people. I expressed th is view to Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez during a meeting with him and he agreed and said that some measures would be taken so that some newscasts would be on the air.

[Question] "The Voice of the Defense of the Fatherland" was established during the state of emergency. Do you think that those newscasts fulfilled their information tasks?

[Answer] Which newscasts?

[Question] "The Voice of the Defense of the Fatherland."

[Answer] I think the Nicaraguan radio stations had to join the network too many times for those newscasts. The "Fists on High" network program ["Puno en Alto," a past-revolutionary literary campaign network] already existed.

I think that was twice a day, in the morning and in the afternoon. Then there were the four network newscasts, making a total of six networks a day. On some occasions, there was also some special network. So the person who had a radio practically could only hear one station in Nicaragua. Perhaps, this is an exaggeration but the reality was not far from this. I think it is worthwhile to have a network when there is some very important information that the government wants to give to all the Nicaraguan people. A network is quite justified in those occasions. I have seen several networks that have been well justified. But four, five, six or seven networks every day is an exaggeration. I think the government has made a good decision by permitting the newscasts to be broadcast.

[Question] What is your comment on the extension of the state of emergency law?

[Answer] I wish that the state of emergency would be lifted so that the country can return to a normal political and social situation as soon as possible.

[Question] Do you think we can return to a normal political situation when some politicians of some opposition parties are already outside the country?

[Answer] Well, the (?country) is here in Nicaragua and not outside the country.

[Question] But they are already outside Nicaragua and many of them have openly said they are counterrevolutionaries.

[Answer] Look, in no country in the world can a government find a completely ideal situation. The government has to develop with problems. This government has had many problems. I think some of those problems have been the fault of the government while others have not. This would have to be analyzed very carefully.

[Question] In view of the country's emergency situation as a result of the attacks, the [word indistinct] and the floods, don't you think that the departure of these people has made critical the (?situation) of the Nicaraguan people? I am referring to the members of the political parties who are outside Nicaragua. Don't you think they should return and face with all the people the emergency situation we are confronting?

[Answer] I don't think they left Nicaragua precisely because of the floods. They left because of political or private reasons. I wish you would ask them those questions, because I have not spoken with any of them and do not know the reasons. I think it would be interesting [words indistinct] to interview them.

[Question] Regarding the floods, what are you doing to help overcome this disaster?

[Answer] I generally see many newsmen who come to interview me here in LA PRENSA and I have always told them that their countries should try to see how they can help Nicaragua. I have even told some representatives of the U.S. Government who have come here that the United States has the duty to help the Nicaraguan people who have suffered this unfortunate disaster -- comparable to the earthquake -- and that they should send all types of aid for the people. Now then, I think that looking at the reports on all the international donations there has been a better response in the past few days. The EEC recently announced that it will make a donation of $200,000. I also saw that Japan is going to donate (?$70,000) [words indistinct]. The needs are much bigger than what has been sent. I agree with Ramirez Mercado about the aid not being sufficient. [end recording]

REPORT ON FRONT LEADER'S NEWS CONFERENCE

PA171310 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] The Nicaraguan democratic front [as heard] today announced its political support for the military forces aligned with Commander Eden Pastora. Here is a report on the news conference granted by Alfonso Robelo, president of the Nicaraguan democratic front.

Alfonso Robelo Callejas, president of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN], announced here [Panama City] this afternoon that his party has suspended all its civic activities in Nicaragua and backs the armed struggle of Eden Pastora. At a news conference held this afternoon in a downtown hotel, Robelo said that there are no conditions for civic and political activities in his country. He accused the FSLN directorate of treason and stated that there is a state of terror in Nicaragua.

Robelo, who spoke in the company of other members of his party, said that he publicly commits himself to struggle tirelessly until there is a democratic recovery of the Nicaraguan revolution. After giving a historic background of the MDN's struggle against Somoza and noting the principles of the Sandinist revolution, Robelo said that the National Directorate of the FSLN wants to consolidate a totalitarian regime with basis on Marxism-Leninism.

Robelo noted the FSLN's attacks on the Nicaraguan Catholic bishops, against the peasants and, especially, against the Miskito Indians of our Atlantic coast region. Robelo said that the educational reforms being implemented in Nicaragua are inhuman and made education a tool for alienation.

The MDN leaders scored agrarian reform, noting that the state has become the largest landowner in Latin America, with more than 1.5 billion hectares. He said that the production of cotton dropped from 630,000 bales in Somoza's last year in power to 230,000 bales last year.

Robelo also referred to the surrender of the Sandinist leaders to Cuba and the Soviet Union. Robelo said that Fidel Castro really gives the orders in Nicaragua. He said the Sandinist army has 1,300 Cuban advisers for 22,000 soldiers.

Robelo said that the MDN has held talks with Eden Pastora -- Commander Cero -- for the purpose of forming an alliance where his party would be the political base and Pastora's men would be the armed branch. Robelo denied that there has been any kind of alliance with the members of the former Somozist guard. The MDN leader said that his people fought those people when Somoza lived and that he will continue fighting them.

After saying that the countries should realize that Latin America's democracy is at stake in Nicaragua, Robelo added: We have criticized the suspension of U.S. aid to Nicaragua. We believe, he noted, that we must back the Sandinist revolutionary front of Eden Pastora and that it is necessary to creat within Nicaragua, a force that will be able to solve the problem and overthrow the national directorate through an armed struggle.

Robelo added: Never before in Nicaragua's history -- not even during the periods of the most hateful U.S. intervention -- have there been more foreigners with authority over Nicaraguans than now. In referring to the mixed economy in his country, the MDN president said there is no such a thing in Nicaragua. That there is a messy economy that is being led into the hands of the state with the disappearance of the private enterprise.

We are facing a dictatorship, Robelo added, whose morale and ethics are different from those of us who are Christians. Robelo said that political parties still in Nicaragua have only days to live, since in Nicaragua there is no room for civic life. He again scored agrarian reform.

ORTEGA DENOUNCES U.S. INTERVENTION PLANS

PA162333 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jun 82

[Text] Yesterday, Humberto Ortega Saavedra, commander of the revolution and commander in chief of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS], denounced U.S. plans for military intervention against the Sandinist people's revolution.

He stressed this at the first graduation ceremony for EPS officers at the Carlos Aguero school. The graduating class took the name of Francisco Meza, in honor of the Sandinist hero.

Commander Ortega said that former Somozist guardsmen are now in Honduras, ready to attack Nicaragua. He stressed that those counterrevolutionary plans also include an intense ideological campaign to confuse the politically backward sectors.

Commander Ortega said the enemy's weapons include the religious sects, which freely move about in the national territory, trying not only to make the people believe that the storm which also affected Honduras is God's punishment, but also that the revolutionary government is to blame for the country's social and economic problems.

The commander in chief of the EPS indicated that the enemies of the revolutionary process want to forget that the illiteracy, poverty and ruin of the country stem from 69 years of foreign domination, and capitalist and Somozist exploitation. He urged the people to be alert and ready to confront the approaching difficult situation. He also called on the army to maintain firm its revolutionary faith. We must be ready to denounce the enemy's diversionist campaign which is like a cancer that takes advantage of human weaknesses, Ortega stressed.

FORMER JUSTICE MINISTER REPORTEDLY SEEKS ASYLUM

PA170401 (Clandestine) Radio 15 September in Spanish to Nicaragua 0230 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Attention, Nicaraguan brothers, attention. Here is a very important last-minute report. Ernesto "Tito" Castillo [Ernesto Castillo Martinez], former minister of justice and founder of the disastrous special tribunals, has just requested asylum in the Costa Rican Embassy in our capital city.

This new resignation and request for asylum by one of the highest members of the Marxist dictatorship demonstrates to each and every Nicaraguan who loves freedom and democracy that the end of the dictatorship is approaching in giant strides.

By requesting political asylum in the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua, Ernesto "Tito" Castillo has shown that the dictatorship is crumbling. This has been a last-minute report from our war correspondents and the intelligence sources of the Nicaraguan democratic force.

BRIEFS

LAWSUIT FILED -- Yesterday, Buenaventura Selva filed suit against Fabio Gadea Mantilla, owner of Radio Corporacion, Radio Mil and Radio Minuto, at the district criminal court presided over by Judge (Osvaldo Ortega). Selva is accusing Gadea Mantilla of fraud after Gadea Mantilla refused to begin netotiations to settle the matter in a friendly manner. Selva, Gadea Mantilla's former partner, said that Gadea Mantilla never accounted for 80,773 cordobas spent for publicity, and which were paid to Agencia Alfa Omega, owned by (Ivan Osorio Tefel), a minister under the Somoza regime. Gadea Mantilla is a leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement. He is residing in Costa Rica after declaring himself an enemy of the Nicaraguan people. [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Jun 82 PA]

COLOMBIA

MINISTER BACKS UK LABOR PROPOSAL FOR FALKLANDS

PA180235 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 17 Jun 82

[Text] Bogota -- Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds has said that British Labor Party leader Denis Healey's proposal that Colombia and other Latin American countries become trustee coadministrators of the Malvinas is a generous suggestion that seeks an honorable solution to the situation.

The foreign minister indicated that Colombia is very willing to make any effort on behalf of peace in the South Atlantic. However, he stressed that this is only a generous proposal by a leader of the opposition Labor Party and is not an official position of the British crown. Naturally we feel flattered by Mr Healey's mention of Colombia as a nation that could participate in a trustee administration, Foreign Minister Lemos Simmonds said. He added that since the suggestion is not an official government proposal, we can see it only as a generous idea for an honorable solution. The foreign minister stressed that if the proposal were to be made official, Colombia would study it and adopt a decision that would contribute to peace.

The foreign minister announced that he will go to New York on Sunday to participate in the UN disarmament meeting. At the United Nations he will again defend international law as the best way to solve disputes at the negotiating table, without resorting to arms.

PANAMA

GOVERNMENT SHOULD RESPOND TO DEA GUARD CHARGES

PA161915 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Jun 82 p 1A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] U.S. officials in charge of fighting drug traffic told the Miami HERALD that their investigations established that "ranking officers of Panama's National Guard could be involved in the smuggling of 1,197 pounds of cocaine discovered by U.S. agents." These charges are extremely serious, and the government should have immediately demanded through the Foreign Ministry that top DEA [Drug Enforcement Agency] officials reveal the names of the officers involved in the scandal or retract the report and apologize for smearing the honor of the armed institution. By failing to act promptly, as required by the circumstances, the government has further jeopardized the position of "ranking officers of the National Guard," to the degree that this position is untenable. The foreign minister, in turn, has been guilty of negligence, much more so considering that the armed forces is the only support of the government, in which it participates and directs international relations.

URUGUAY

NAVY INSPECTING CARGO SHIPS BOUND FOR ARGENTINA

PY180314 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0157 GMT 18 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 18 Jun (LATIN-REUTER) -- Shipping company sources stated today that navy personnel are inspecting all merchant vessels sailing to Argenina ports on the River Plate. The sources added that vessels scheduled for Buenos Aires port or other ports on the River Plate must anchor at Cape San Antonio, at the river mouth, to be inspected before they are allowed to enter port. British crewmembers or passengers have to be disembarked in Montevideo before the vessel continues.

The inspections were ordered shortly after the conflict between Argentina and Great Britain broke out in April, but vessels sailing for Uruguayan ports are not affected.